

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00641 062104Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----117689 062105Z /64

O 060945Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1910
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ALEXANDRIA 0641

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: SECTO 9010

1. SINCE SADAT IS NOT YET UP, I HAVE THIS MORNING BEEN IN TOUCH WITH KAMEL TO URGE THE EGYPTIANS AVOID ANY PUBLIC REACTIONS TO REPORTS EMANATING FROM JERUSALEM ON WHAT YOU MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE DISCUSSED. I REMINDED HIM THAT WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH THIS KIND OF THING MANY TIMES BEFORE DURING YOUR VISITS TO JERUSALEM AND SPECULATION IS ALWAYS RAMPANT ABOUT WHAT WAS SAID OR AGREED UPON. IN MOST INSTANCES, SUCH SPECULATION TURNED OUT TO BE TENDENTIOUS. I EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EGYPTIANS NOT MAKING ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT THE JERUSALEM TALKS UNTIL AFTER YOU HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO TALK WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. I POINTED OUT THAT ANY PREMATURE EGYPTIAN REACTION CAN ONLY COMPLICATE WHAT WE BOTH WANT TO ACHIEVE, NAMELY KEEPING THE PEACE PROCESS MOVING FORWARD.

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2. KAMEL AGREED IN PRINCIPLE, BUT ASKED IF I HAD ANYTHING SPECIFIC IN MIND. I SAID I DID NOT, BUT MENTIONED AS EXAMPLES VARIOUS PRESS INTERVIEWS GIVEN BY SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIALS AND SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED IN ISRAELI MEDIA (JERUSALEM 2162). THERE WOULD PROBABLY ALSO BE OTHER STATEMENTS AS YOUR JERUSALEM TALKS PROGRESS.

3. KAMEL SAID IT IS GOE POSITION NOT TO REACT AT THIS TIME TO STORIES OUT OF JERUSALEM AND TO WAIT UNTIL YOU ARRIVE. HE DID NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MIGHT BE STORIES COMING OUT OF JERUSALEM THAT ARE SO OUTRAGEOUS THAT THE GOE MIGHT HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING LEST ITS SILENCE BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE AND THE ARABS. I AGAIN PRESSED THAT NOTHING BE SAID UNTIL YOU HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO TALK TO SADAT AND SUGGESTED THAT, IF GOE CONSIDERS IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT ANY PARTICULAR JERUSALEM REPORT, IT LIMIT ITS COMMENT TO AN AFFIRMATION OF ITS DESIRE TO WAIT UNTIL YOUR VISIT AND TALKS WITH SADAT BEFORE MAKING ANY SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT. KAMEL SAID THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH HIS THINKING.

4. KAMEL EXPECTS TO MEET WITH SADAT LATER TODAY AND UNDERTOOK TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT RIGHT AWAY OF OUR DEMARCHE. I WILL ALSO TRY TO GET WORD DIRECTLY TO SADAT.

5. KAMEL ASKED THAT I CONVEY TO YOU HIS WARM REGARDS AND THAT HE LOOKS FORWARD TO SEEING YOU TOMORROW.
MCCLELLAND

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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